

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION AND FORESTRY

Mr. SMITH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, June 20, 2000. The purpose of this meeting will be to mark up new legislation and nominations.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. SMITH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, June 20, for purposes of conducting a Full Committee business meeting which is scheduled to begin at 10:15 a.m. The purpose of this business meeting is to consider pending calendar business.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Mr. SMITH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Finance be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, June 20, 2000 at 10:00 a.m. in SD-215 for a public hearing on Dispute Settlement and the WTO.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

Mr. SMITH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions be authorized to meet for a hearing on Federal Service Programs during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, June 20, 2000 at 9:30 a.m.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON HOUSING AND TRANSPORTATION

Mr. SMITH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the subcommittee on Housing and Transportation be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, June 20, 2000, to conduct a hearing on proposals to promote affordable housing.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire. Mr. President, on behalf of Senator HUTCHINSON of Arkansas, I ask unanimous consent that Lt. Col. Tim Wiseman, a legislative fellow on Senator HUTCHINSON's staff, and Andrea Smalec, also a member of Senator HUTCHINSON's staff, be granted the privilege of the floor for the remainder of today's debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask Unanimous Consent that Gary Tomasulo, a legislative fellow in the office of Senator MIKE DEWINE, be granted floor privileges during consideration of the foreign operations, export financing, and related programs appropriations bill.

Mr. President, I also ask unanimous consent that the privilege of the floor be granted to Eric Akers of the Senate Caucus on International Narcotics Control during the consideration of the Senate foreign operations appropriations bill.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that John Underinner, a fellow in Senator HARKIN's office, be granted floor privileges for the duration of the Senate's consideration of S. 2522.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

WELCOMING KING MOHAMMED VI OF MOROCCO

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Res. 325, submitted earlier by Senator ABRAHAM.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 325) welcoming King Mohammed VI of Morocco upon his first official visit to the United States of America.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. ABRAHAM. Mr. President, I am pleased the Senate is considering a resolution today that commemorates the state visit of the King of Morocco. I extend my warmest welcome to His Majesty King Mohammed VI of Morocco on the occasion of his first official visit to the United States of America. It is my hope that my colleagues will join me in welcoming the King with swift adoption of this resolution.

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and any statements relating to the resolution be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 325) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 325

Whereas Morocco was the first country to recognize the independence of the United States;

Whereas Morocco and the United States signed a Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation in 1787;

Whereas the Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation stands as the basis for the longest

unbroken treaty relationship between the United States and a foreign country in the history of the Republic;

Whereas the Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation has established a close, friendly, and productive alliance between the United States and Morocco that has stood the test of history and exists today;

Whereas the close relationship between the United States and Morocco has helped the United States advance important national interests;

Whereas the United States and Morocco have long shared the objectives of securing a true and lasting peace in the Near East region and have worked together to establish and advance the Middle East peace process;

Whereas, under the leadership of the late King Hassan II, Morocco played a critical role in hosting meetings, promoting dialogue, and encouraging moderation in the Middle East, leading to some of the peace process's most important and lasting achievements;

Whereas, with the ascension of the King Hassan II's successor, King Mohammed VI, Morocco is suitably positioned and ably guided by its current leadership to maintain its traditional role in the peace process;

Whereas Morocco and the United States have worked successfully to enhance economic stability, growth, and progress in the Maghreb region and its environs, including Morocco's role as host to the inaugural Middle East and North Africa Summit held in Casablanca in 1994, and Morocco's continuing prominence in sustaining that dialogue and promoting economic integration with Tunisia and Algeria;

Whereas King Mohammed VI has assumed and expanded the legacy of his father, the late Hassan II, in strengthening the rule of law, promoting the concepts of democracy, human rights and individual liberties, and implementing far-reaching economic and social reforms to benefit all of the people of Morocco;

Whereas the preservation of the rights and freedoms of the Moroccan people and the expansion of reforms in Morocco represent a model for progress and bolster the foreign policy objectives of the United States in the region and elsewhere;

Whereas leading American corporations such as the CMS Energy Corporation, the Boeing Company, the Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company, the Gillette Company, and others are responsible for substantial and increasingly higher levels of trade, investment, and commerce between the United States and Morocco, involving increasingly diverse sectors of the Moroccan and American economies;

Whereas the expansion of economic activity is emerging as a new and increasingly important component of the historical friendship between the United States and Morocco, and is helping to strengthen the fabric of the bilateral relationship and to sustain it throughout the 21st century and beyond;

Whereas the people of the United States and Morocco have long enjoyed fruitful exchanges in fields such as culture, education, politics, science, business, and industry, and Americans of Moroccan origin are making substantial contributions to these and other disciplines in the United States; and

Whereas Morocco and the United States are preparing for the first official visit to the United States by King Mohammed VI to highlight these and other achievements, to celebrate the long history of warm and friendly ties between the two countries, to continue discussions on how to advance and accelerate those objectives common to the United States and Morocco, and to inaugurate a new chapter in the longest unbroken